

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1

Please replace the paragraph commencing at line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

In photo studios, there is service for making, for example, ~~esample~~, New Year's cards illustrated with photographs, by utilizing a template that consists of New Year's characters, illustrations, and a blank region for inserting photographs. Such New Year's cards are made by, for example, synthesizing image data obtained by reading out an image recorded on a negative film or obtained with a digital camera, and template data representing a template containing clip art or characters produced by computer processing, and then printing a synthesized image on the basis of the synthesized image data.

Pages 14-15

Please replace the paragraph commencing at page 14, line 22, and ending at page 15, line 10, with the following amended paragraph:

The image processing method of the present invention may be provided as a program that causes a computer to execute the image processing method. The program may be ~~provided~~ recorded on a computer readable recording medium. A skilled artisan would know that computer readable recording media are not limited to any specific type of storage device and may be any type of device, including but not limited to: CD's, floppy disks, RAM's, ROM's, hard disks, magnetic tapes, and devices for storing internet downloads, in which computer instructions can be stored ~~and/or transmitted~~. Transmission of computer code through a network or through wireless transmission means is also within the scope of this invention. Additionally, computer code/instructions include, but are not limited to: source, object and executable code, and may be in any language, including higher level languages, assembly language, and machine language.